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Media Alert

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Texas Veterans Commission Launches Veterans Cash Campaign

HOUSTON – Today the Texas Veterans Commission (TVC) launched the *Veterans Cash* campaign to encourage Texans to play the *Veterans Cash* lottery scratch-off game, which benefits the TVC Fund for Veterans' Assistance (FVA) and supports Veterans in local communities.

The proceeds from the lottery game are the main source of revenue for the FVA, which is a program that awards reimbursement grants to non-profit and local government organizations which provide direct services to Texas Veterans and their families.

"According to the Texas Lottery Commission, the overall odds of winning a prize in the newest \$2 *Veterans Cash* game are 1-to-4.47," said Kathy Wood, Director of the Fund for Veterans' Assistance at TVC. "The odds of the purchase of a *Veterans Cash* scratch-off game benefiting a Texas Veteran are 1-to-1."

As of October 2012, the FVA has awarded 15 reimbursement grants to 12 organizations totaling \$3.8 million in the Gulf Coast region. Through these funds, the FVA awardees have served or will serve over 20,600 Veterans living in this region during the grant period.

With a grant provided through the FVA, Neighborhood Centers, Inc., in Bellaire has been able to serve over 500 Texas Veterans and their families by providing services such as financial assistance that allows Veterans to focus on employment and health services. Through this program, Texas Veterans received assistance for rental, deposit or utility assistance, child care and transportation assistance.

The campaign will run until Veterans Day, which commemorates the third anniversary of *Veterans Cash* game which was established by the 81st Texas Legislature in 2009.

For more information about the Fund for Veterans' Assistance and *Veterans Cash*, please visit www.tvc.texas.gov/Veterans-Cash.aspx.

Texas Veterans Commission

The mission of the Texas Veterans Commission is to advocate for and provide superior service to Veterans and their families in the areas of claims assistance, employment services, education benefits and grant funding. Over 200 skilled counselors in 75 cities provide one-on-one guidance to Veterans and their families to ensure they receive all the benefits to which they are entitled.

For more information, go to www.tvc.texas.gov.